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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/502,045	01/10/2005	Atsushi Kudo	255291US90PCT	2143
22850 7590 06/10/2011 OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, L.L.P. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314				
EXAMINER YOUNG, NATASHA E				
ART UNIT 1774		PAPER NUMBER		
NOTIFICATION DATE 06/10/2011		DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patentdocket@oblon.com
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**Supplemental
Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/502,045

Examiner

NATASHA YOUNG

Applicant(s)

KUDO ET AL.

Art Unit

1774

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Information Disclosure Statement submitted on May 25, 2011.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 4-6, 10, 11, 16 and 32-53.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.64(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>05/25/2011</u> 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |
|--|--|

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on May 25, 2011. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4-6, 10-12, 16, and 32-53 are allowed.

The closest prior art references are Harada et al (WO 2001/051173 A, English Equivalent US 2002/0197193 A1), Yamamura et al (JP 2000-102709 A), and Kato et al (JP 10-306203 A).

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 4, Harada et al discloses **a honeycomb filter** (see Abstract) **for purifying exhaust gases, comprising: a plurality of columnar porous ceramic members (11) having a partition wall (14) and plurality of through holes (15), said through holes extending in parallel with one another in a length direction of said columnar porous ceramic members, said partition wall separating said through holes and configured to filter particulates in an exhaust gas, said through holes of each said columnar porous ceramic members including ones sealed at an inlet side of said columnar porous ceramic members and ones sealed at an outlet side of said columnar porous ceramic member such that the exhaust gas enters from**

the inlet side, passes through the partition wall and flows out from the outlet side; and an adhesive layer combining said columnar porous ceramic members with one another and formed by drying an adhesive paste including a pore forming material which forms a plurality of pores adjusting a thermal capacity per unit volume of said adhesive layer becomes lower than a thermal capacity per unit volume of the porous ceramic members (see Abstract; paragraphs 0024-0030, 0038, and 0041-0043; and figures 1a-d), since ceramic fiber, ceramic powder, cement, or the like produces pores.

Kato et al discloses a resin molded product including pore forming material and wherein the pore forming material comprises at least one of a balloon and a resin material (see Abstract).

The prior art references do not disclose or suggest an adhesive layer formed by drying an adhesive paste, the adhesive paste including the pore forming material which comprises at least one of a balloon and a thermally decomposed resin material.

Claims 5, 6, 32-34, and 47-53 depend on claim 4.

Regarding claim 10, Harada et al discloses **a honeycomb filter** (see Abstract) **for purifying exhaust gases, comprising: a ceramic block comprising at least one columnar porous ceramic member having a partition wall and plurality of through holes, said through holes extending in parallel with one another in a length direction of said columnar porous ceramic members, said partition wall separating said through holes and configured to filter particulates in an exhaust gas, said through holes of each said columnar porous ceramic members**

including ones sealed at an inlet side of said columnar porous ceramic members and ones sealed at an outlet side of said columnar porous ceramic member such that the exhaust gas enters from the inlet side, passes through the partition wall and flows out from the outlet side (see Abstract; paragraphs 0024-0030, 0038, and 0041-0043; and figures 1a-d).

Yamamura et al discloses coating the peripheral part of the ceramic block by the sealant which contains an inorganic fiber, an inorganic binder, an organic binder, and an inorganic particle at least (see paragraphs 15 and 22-25) resulting in **a coating material layer formed on a circumferential face of said ceramic block and formed by drying a coating material paste including a pore forming which forms a plurality of pores adjusting a thermal capacity per volume of said coating material layer is lower than a thermal capacity per unit volume of the porous members, since inorganic fiber and silicon carbide produces pores.**

Kato et al discloses a resin molded product including pore forming material and wherein the pore forming material comprises at least one of a balloon and a resin material (see Abstract).

The prior art references do not disclose or suggest a coating material layer formed by drying a coating material paste, the coating material paste including the pore forming material which comprises at least one of a balloon and a thermally decomposed resin material.

Claims 11 and 35-37 depend on claim 10.

Regarding claim 16, Harada et al discloses **a honeycomb filter (see Abstract) for purifying exhaust gases, comprising: a plurality of columnar porous ceramic members having a partition wall and plurality of through holes, said through holes extending in parallel with one another in a length direction of said columnar porous ceramic members, said partition wall separating said through holes and configured to filter particulates in an exhaust gas, said through holes of each said columnar porous ceramic members including ones sealed at an inlet side of said columnar porous ceramic members and ones sealed at an outlet side of said columnar porous ceramic member such that the exhaust gas enters from the inlet side, passes through the partition wall and flows out from the outlet side; and an adhesive layer combining said columnar porous ceramic members with one another and formed by drying an adhesive paste including a pore forming material which forms a plurality of pores adjusting a thermal capacity per unit volume of said adhesive layer becomes lower than a thermal capacity per unit volume of the porous ceramic members (see Abstract; paragraphs 0024-0030, 0038, and 0041-0043; and figures 1a-d).**

Yamamura et al discloses coating the peripheral part of the ceramic block by the sealant which contains an inorganic fiber, an inorganic binder, an organic binder, and an inorganic particle at least (see paragraphs 15 and 22-25) resulting in **a coating material layer formed on a circumferential face of said ceramic block and formed by drying a coating material paste including a pore forming which forms a plurality of pores adjusting a thermal capacity per volume of said coating material**

layer is lower than a thermal capacity per unit volume of the porous members, since inorganic fiber and silicon carbide produces pores.

Kato et al discloses a resin molded product including pore forming material and wherein the pore forming material comprises at least one of a balloon and a resin material (see Abstract).

The prior art references do not disclose or suggest an adhesive layer formed by drying an adhesive paste, the adhesive paste including the pore forming material which comprises at least one of a balloon and a thermally decomposed resin material; and a coating material layer formed by drying a coating material paste, the coating material paste including the pore forming material which comprises at least one of a balloon and a thermally decomposed resin material.

Claims 38-46 depend on claim 16.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NATASHA YOUNG whose telephone number is 571-270-3163. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs 7:30 am-6:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Walter Griffin can be reached on 571-272-1447. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/N. Y./
Examiner, Art Unit 1774

/Walter D. Griffin/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1774